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# National Whirligig

News Behind the News

CPYRGHT

By RAY TUCKER

Every Saturday Mr. Tucker answers readers' questions of general interest on national and international policies and personalities. Questions may be sent to him at 7008 Hillcrest Place, Chevy Chase, Md.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17—"Do you look for any important Cabinet changes in President Eisenhower's second term?" asks T. G., of Altoona, Pa., and many other readers voice the same question.

Answer: If there are any resignations, as generally happens in a second term, it will be the doing of the members of Ike's official family, not at his request. He is quite satisfied with his entourage, especially as the Stevenson-Kefauver charge that the Cabinet was "loaded" in favor of big business, apparently fell flat.

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AN ABSURD RUMOR—There was an abused rumor that the two Dulles brothers—the Secretary of State and Allen, head of the Central Intelligence Agency—might be forced out because they failed to have full information on the Israeli-British-French invasion of Israel. They did not have it because their opposites at London, Paris and Tel Aviv deliberately withheld their military plans.

Ill health may force Secretary Dulles to quit, for his burden has been extremely heavy. However, if possible, the "old man" wants to see the current crises through to a peaceful settlement. Likely successors, if he has to leave Washington, are Under-Secretary Herbert Hoover, Jr., former Massachusetts Governor Christian A. Herter and ex-Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

No matter who presides at State, Ike fixes foreign policy. His principal purpose now, and Dulles is in complete agreement, is to prevent a shooting war by channeling the possible causes thereof to the United Nations.

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OTHER POSSIBLE CABINET RESIGNATIONS — Defense Secretary Wilson may step out because, like Dulles, of impaired health. His most likely successor appears to be General Alfred M. Gruenther of

Nebraska, a brilliant military strategist, head of NATO's ground forces, and one of Ike's favorite bridge-playing opponents. However, General Gruenther has accepted the presidency of the American Red Cross.

Secretary Ezra Taft Benson is another possible departure, even though the reported revolt against his farm program petered out to a great degree. Save for the loss of Missouri, the Secretary of Agriculture was given a vote of confidence. Two of his "giveaway" predecessors—Charles F. Brannan of Colorado and Claude Wickard of Indiana—were defeated decisively in primary and senatorial election tests, respectively.

Another Cabinet member who may retire is Treasury Secretary George M. Humphrey. But he will quite at his own preference rather than because of White House desire. He will stay on, if Ike insists upon it, which is quite probable. With inflationary threats, due to higher earning and buying power, the next four years will need a careful and cautious man at the financial helm.

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DEMOCRATS STILL "PARTY OF PEOPLE"—"In view of the Democrats' losses in the great cities and in the South," inquired Mrs. L. O., of Tulsa, Okla., "is their Party cracking up?"

Answer: Of course not. The fact that they carried Congress, in the face of President Eisenhower's popular and electoral sweep, proves the contrary. The Democrats are still the "Part of the people," and they will remain so unless the Republicans on and off Capitol Hill are smart enough to pursue the path of middle-of-the-road progressivism marked out by Ike.

Several Southern states, with Florida, Virginia and Texas in mind, may become two-Party areas. But they will veer in that direction because of economic changes—industrialization and migrations of Northerners—rather than from any definite preference for the GOP. Unless the Republicans wake up and really reform on a liberal and humane basis, they will go out of power in 1960, when Ike retires to his Gettysburg farm.